

PROCESSES FOR PREPARING MECHANICAL  
PULPS HAVING HIGH BRIGHTNESS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention aims firstly to provide a novel  
5 technique capable of preparing bleached pulp having high  
brightness from materials having low bleachability  
containing high levels of extractives and secondly to  
provide a technique capable of reducing the amount of  
bleaching agents used in processes for preparing bleached  
10 mechanical pulps.

A first aspect of the invention relates to a  
pretreatment comprising impregnating wood chips having low  
bleachability with a chemical liquor at a pH range of 7-12  
in aqueous solution and draining the chemical liquor from  
15 the impregnated chips, whereby extractives contained in the  
chips and consuming bleaching agents can be removed with  
the result that the effect of bleaching agents in the  
subsequent bleaching step can be improved and bleached  
mechanical pulp having high brightness can be prepared.

20 A second aspect of the invention relates to a process  
for preparing bleached mechanical pulp comprising a  
sequential step of defibration by primary refining -  
bleaching - beating by secondary refining wherein pulp  
fibers are washed after defibrating wood chips having low  
25 bleachability and before bleaching the pulp fibers, whereby  
the amount of bleaching agents used can be reduced and  
bleached mechanical pulp having a Hunter brightness of 45-  
65% after secondary refining can be obtained.